

2-21-2002

## Oleanna, program

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# Theatre MSU

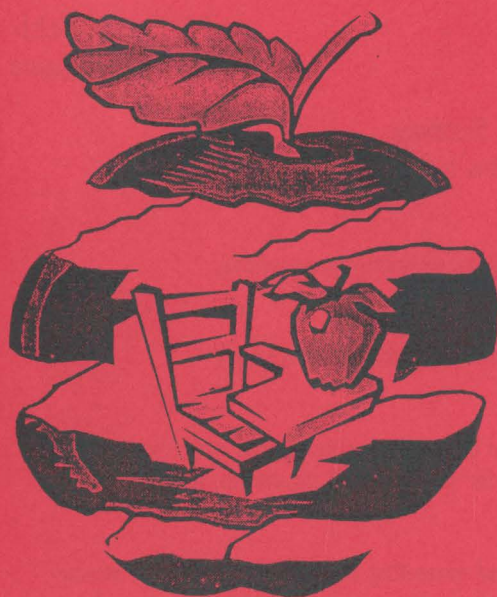
Mississippi State University  
Communication Department



*Presents*

## OLEANNA

By David Mamet



February 21, 22, & 23

7:30 p.m.

February 24

2:00 p.m.

Lab Theater

McComas Hall

This play contains  
adult themes and language.

### ADMISSION

MSU Faculty/Staff, Students & Senior Citizens - \$5.00 \* General Public - \$10.00

For reservations call 325-7951 or email [shinton@comm.msstate.edu](mailto:shinton@comm.msstate.edu)

Produced by special arrangements with Dramatist Play Service, Inc.

Mississippi State University  
Department of Communication  
Presents

## ***Oleanna***

By  
David Mamet

Directed by Christopher Tyer

Set Design by Tim Watson  
Lighting Design by Matthew Webb  
Costume Design by Patricia Morgan

### **Cast**

John . . . . . Matthew Webb  
Carol . . . . . Madeline Siggins

**Setting**  
John's Office

There will be two 10-minute intermissions.

Approximate production time is two hours.

This play addresses mature themes and contains language, which might not be appropriate for children under 14. Parental discretion is advised.

The use of flash photography and recording devices of any type is strictly prohibited. Patrons are asked to refrain from eating, drinking, and smoking in the theatre. As a courtesy to fellow audience members, please silence pagers and cellular phones during the performance.

"Oleanna" is performed by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.



## Production Staff

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Assistant to the Director . . . . .     | Amber Crausby  |
| Fight Choreography . . . . .            | Joe Evans*   |
| Technical Director . . . . .            | Wayne Durst*   |
| Stage Manager . . . . .                 | Amber Crausby  |
| Set Construction Crew . . . . .         | Tim Watson, Chris Tyer,<br>Drew Stahr, Andrew McCaskill, Thomas LaFoe*,<br>Cedric Smith, Robert Garrard, Laura Smith,<br>Kristen Hall, Melissa Fenwick, Pamela Buhner*,<br>Holly Ashcom, Matthew Webb, Jonathan Reeves,<br>Dawn Fowler*, Amanda Lopez, Kendrick Vivians,<br>Gabe Smith, Aaron Rufkin, Walker Hamburg, Matt Allen |
| Hair Style / Makeup Design . . . . .    | Patricia Morgan  |
| Light & Sound Board Operator . . . . .  | Javores McKinney   |
| Lighting Crew . . . . .                 | Matthew Webb,<br>Chris Tyer, Bill Dunsford*, Drew Stahr,<br>Cedric Smith, Thomas LaFoe*  |
| Poster / Program Cover Design . . . . . | Pamela Buhner*   |

\* Denotes membership in the Eta Pi chapter of Alpha Psi Omega, the National Theatre Honorary Fraternity.

### Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival XXXV

Presented and produced by

**The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts**

Supported in Part by

**The Kennedy Center Corporate Fund**

**The US Department of Education**

**Delta**

**The National Committee for the Performing Arts**

**Dr. and Mrs. Gerald McNichols**

**The HRH Foundation**

This production entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theatre production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KC/ACTF representative, and certain students are selected to participate in KC/ACTF programs involving awards, scholarships, and special grants for actors, playwrights, designers, and critics at both the regional and national levels.

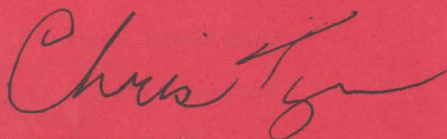
Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KC/ACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KC/ACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC in the spring of 2003.

Last year more than 1,200 productions and 198,000 students participated in the American College Theater Festival nationwide. By entering this production, our department is sharing in the KC/ACTF goals to help college theater grow and to focus attention on the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

## Director's Notes

When I decided to take on this project I knew what I wanted to do. I wanted to do a show by David Mamet. Many other directors, especially undergraduates like myself, would be intimidated to take on a challenge such as this. However, I knew that I wanted to do a Mamet work. I welcomed the challenge. Mamet's realistic style of dialogue is both haunting and poetic, causing me to do months of script analysis before I could cast. I still see new elements and different interpretations that I could have made use of. This is why I love this script.

Approaching "Oleanna" I began with an idea of Naturalism, but after the first few rehearsals I realized that the situation in which these characters are involved requires an almost surreal sense of reality. I wanted to stress that feeling of surrealism, and with the help of Tim's simple design concept and Matt's complex light changes, I believe we were able to accomplish that. Another important aspect of this play is interpretation of the spoken word. The ambiguity of the play takes care of itself, but I wanted to express that this situation is not just between a teacher and student. The interpretations made can be confused and misunderstood in any situation. Whether it is boss--worker, boyfriend--girlfriend, or even two best friends. How a touch on the shoulder, a kind word, or a friendly hug can be interpreted many ways. That these interpretations can cause backlashes so severe and tragic that a person couldn't fathom.



### Thanks to:

Sullivan's Office Supply  
Dr. Jack White  
University Honors Forum  
Pamela G. Buhner\*  
Jo & Wayne Durst\*  
Sue Hinton\*